

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 01237 052020Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-04

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 SP-02 /036 W

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P 051950Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2700

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 1237

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, EAGR, INCO, HO

SUBJECT: 1976 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM, HONDURAS

REF: STATE 051112

1. EMBASSY ADVISED MINISTER OF ECONOMY VICENTE DIAZ AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL. DIAZ UNDERTOOK TO DISCUSS VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT LEVEL PRESENTED TO HIM WITH THE HONDURAN EXPORT INDUSTRY. ECOM OFFICER MADE STRONG CASE THAT VOLUNTARY QUOTA SUGGESTED FOR HONDURAS WAS ADVANTAGEIOUS AND THE NO CHANGE OF THAT QUOTA COULD BE EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM HONDURAN REPRESENTATIONS FOR AN INCREASE. THE MINISTER APPEARED TO ACCEPT FULLY THAT PRESENTATION. HOWEVER, HE WISHED TO FOREARM HIMSELF IN ANTICIPATION OF HIS DISCUSSION WITH THE EXPORTERS. HE WONDERED ALOUD WHAT THE ALTERNATIVES TO ACCEPTANCE OF THE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT WOULD BE. THE POINT THAT MANDATORY QUOTAS WOULD RESULT IN A TEN PERCENT DECREASE IN THE GLOBAL FIGURE WAS MADE PER REFTEL, BUT HOW NON-ACCEPTANCE BY A SINGLE COUNTRY WOULD AFFECT ITS EXPORTS WAS NOT CLEAR FROM THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY.

COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE MINISTER WILL ACCEPT THE VOLUNTARY RESTRAINT AGREEMENT AND THAT THE MINISTERS QUESTION IS PROBABLY ACADEMIC. HOWEVER, IF DEPARTMENT CAN EASILY PROVIDE A RESPONSE IT WOULD BE PASSED TO THE MINISTER.
SANCHEZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPORT CONTROLS, MEATS, EXPORT QUOTAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TEGUCI01237
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760085-0087
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760388/aaaaczvi.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 51112
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2004 by ullricre>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1976 MEAT IMPORT PROGRAM, HONDURAS
TAGS: EPAP, EAGR, ETRD, HO, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006